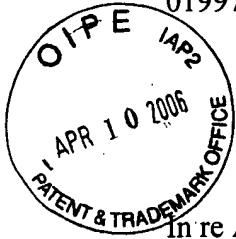


01997.044100.1 (NEW)

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: NEUHOLD et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 1632
	:	
Application No.: 09/717,450	)	Examiner: Wilson, Michael C.
	:	
Filed: November 20, 2000	)	Confirmation No.: 5417
	:	
For: TRANSGENIC ANIMAL MODEL	)	Customer No. 45743 (NEW)
FOR DEGENERATIVE DISEASES	:	
OF CARTILAGE	)	April 7, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

April 7, 2006

(Date of Deposit)

Joseph P. Pieroni (Reg. No. 53,469)

(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

April 7, 2006

Date of Signature

AMENDMENT AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

I. Applicants petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action

dated November 7, 2005, for two (2) months from February 7, 2006 to April 7, 2006.

Submitted herewith is a check for \$450.00 to cover the fee for the extension under 37 C.F.R.

§1.17. Any deficiency in or overpayment of this fee should be charged or credited to Deposit

Account No. 06-1205.

04/11/2006 WASFAW1 00000004 09717450

01 FC:1252

450.00 OP

II. This is in response to the Office Action dated November 7, 2005.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the present amendment and consideration of the remarks included herein. The amended claims find support in the originally filed application and claims, as explained further in the Remarks section.

Applicants make the present amendments only in order to expedite allowance of the present application. Applicants reserve the right to file applications directed to matter removed by way of the present amendment, as well as other matter disclosed by the specification.

III. Amendments to the claims begin on page 3; remarks begin on page 22.